

BADGER STATE

SMOKE SIGNALS

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2002 Wisconsin QSO Party

West Allis Radio Amateur Club, Inc.
QSO Party Chairman: Lynn Tamblyn, K9KR

GENERAL COMMENTS

Activity was down. We saw a decrease in the number of mobile stations and a decrease in the number of stations entering from outside of the state. I think the mobile activity might have been affected by snow, as just prior to WIQP happening on March 10, a snowstorm and freezing rain moved across upper Wisconsin.

Soapbox comments, and my frail memory bank, reminded me that it was cold and snowy late in the week before WIQP. I think that might have changed some plans about some mobile stations taking to the highways, who probably stayed home and operated as a fixed station instead. I know the weather kept N0IJ from traveling into Douglas County as he usually does, to do a Field Day type of operation. Perhaps others had similar changes of plans.

I looked at the paths of our 25 mobile stations, by coloring in each county they traveled through. I found that the entire southern two-thirds of WI was completely full of color. Aside from Door County in the NE, the far NW counties of Burnett, Polk, St. Croix, Pierce, Pepin and Buffalo were the missing ones, along with the upper central counties of Clark, Taylor and Oneida. Seems to me that I remember that's where the snow belt went. So perhaps, northern Wisconsin's weather pattern changed a lot of mobile travel plans?

I also think that band conditions played a role in the number of out of state stations that were able to work into Wisconsin. I looked at the out of state stations, as to what bands they operated on. From soap box comments, and reading between the lines in the logs compared to previous years, my guess is that band conditions prevented making the usual number of contacts on the higher bands.

It seems that 40 meters was the work horse band this year. With so much activity on 40, it might have prevented the out of state stations from being heard, and that might have been another part. The closer-in stations seemed to concentrate on 40 meters and to some degree, 20 meters.

Bottom line, my analysis seems to show that farther away stations probably had a more difficult time getting a signal into Wisconsin. Activity from within Wisconsin certainly was not lacking. That leads me to conclude that band conditions kept farther away station's totals down. I

know we are on the downward side of the solar cycle. Our out of state entries have sort of mirrored the sun spot cycle over the last 7 years.

Overall, WIQP did very well on March 10, 2002. Lots of fixed and mobile stations on. Our mobile count was down to 23 this year, although they did still activate 62 counties, compared with 34 counties activated by fixed stations. I would say that overall, we had an average year, considering all of the above discussions about the weather and band conditions. I need to make some comments before I proceed with the statistics. This year I was asked a lot of questions about WIQP rules. This might be because we have newer operators who are not familiar with WIQP rules. So, I will mention some pertinent points that might need saying:

1. Multiple (Multi) Operator categories are an area that needs expanding on. Multi Operator categories mean one of two things - a multiple number of operators operating ONE transmitter, OR a multiple number of operators operating MULTIPLE transmitters. Whether an entry belongs in "MULTI Op" or "MULTI-MULTI Op" depends on how many transmitters are on the air at the same time. For "MULTI OP" that means only ONE signal from ONE transmitter at a time. For "MULTI-MULTI OP" that means ANY NUMBER OF TRANSMITTERS TRANSMITTING at the same time.

Some examples - an HF and a VHF entry, with each transmitter having its own operator. If the HF station is transmitting, then the VHF station cannot transmit until the HF station is done with its QSO. Or two HF stations, each with its own operator, the same thing applies - only one HF transmitter on the air at any one time. Remember it this way - any time that there is more than one transmitter on the air at the same time - the entry needs to be MULTI-MULTI. Or perhaps we should just rename the "MULTI OP" categories to MULTI-SINGLE to make it quite clear?.

2. A station entry can be either mobile or fixed OR BOTH. If an entry wants to do part of his operation part mobile and part fixed, that is ok with us. The trick is - the ENTRY NEEDS TO INDICATE which category they want to be in on their entry form - MOBILE or FIXED. The total number of contacts should be shown in a chronological list in the log, with county

changes clearly indicated for the mobile operations. Be sure to add bonus points for changing counties. We have had a lot of entries in past years that did both mobile and fixed, as well as entries that were fixed entries that also changed counties during WIQP, once or more. 3. Power level. You must choose which power level you want to enter - HIGH, LOW or QRP. You cannot move back and forth. For example, any contact made in HIGH power, means that ALL CONTACTS are considered high power, even if you do a portion of them QRP.

4. Club entries. All entries for a specific club need to follow the 50 mile rule we have had for years and years. All club entries need to be within 50 miles of the club center, except for mobile entries for that club. Portable stations must also follow that 50 mile rule, as portable entries are really fixed entries, for the purpose of being included with a specific club score. Mobile stations are the only exception to the 50 mile rule.

5. 3 letter identifiers. We would prefer that all stations stick with our 3 letter identifiers so that all stations know where other stations are. However, it is most important in the case of mobile stations, that are constantly changing counties. This is perhaps the most mentioned comment I have from entrants "please encourage all mobiles to sign the 3 letter county identifier versus just using / M. By using the county ID, others know right away whether they need the mobile in that county on that band and mode. This saves time for both parties."

In my view , mobile stations need to announce that they are mobile and the county they are in EACH TIME THEY CALL. On phone its easy. On CW, all it takes is sending something like K9KR/RAC each time. If they are mobile and changing counties, you will soon know that by hearing another county ID being sent. If

they are fixed, and you try to work them again, it will be a dupe. I get really frustrated when I work a station who does not say he is mobile, and then later find out he is mobile - but that's another matter. On phone, mobile stations need to make it clear they are mobile. On CW it will take care of itself by using the above method.

On to the statistics. We had 124 entries from within Wisconsin, and 68 from outside the state, for a total of 192. 26 states sent in entries, 4 Canadian Provinces and we had an entry from Lithuania, the Netherlands and from Germany. We had entries in each of the categories this year except for our Multi Operator Technician category. In Wisconsin, 4 stations operated QRP, 4 operated HIGH power and the rest were LOW power.

Out of state, it was also 4 QRP, and 8 in HIGH power, with the rest at LOW power. Our most popular WI category is Single Operator Fixed with 84 entries, followed by Single Operator Mobile with 12, Multi Op Fixed with 9, Multi Op Mobile with 7, Multi Multi Fixed with 6, Single Op Technician with 4 and both Single Op Novice and Multi Multi Mobile with one each. And yes, all the 50 states and all the Wisconsin counties appear in the logs.

The highest single operator scorer in Wisconsin, was Chad Kurszewski, WE9V, who operates from Kenosha County. He did a really bang up job, to a new record for a Single Operator Fixed station. Chad made 265 CW QSOs, 441 phone QSOs, with 58 WI counties, 41 states and 5 Canadian Provinces, all while using LOW power. This effort gave him a new WIQP standing record of 148,563 points in the SOF category. Chad won our 1998 WIQP operating from W9JA, and our 1999 and 2000 WIQPs operating from his home station. Congratulations Chad.

The highest single operator scorer from outside of Wisconsin, was Mike

(Continued on page 9)

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Check us out on the web at
[Http://www.bsos.org](http://www.bsos.org)



WHAT'S HAPPENING

Swapfests and Other Social Events — Club Meetings Amateur Radio Exam Schedules

Edited by Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage WI 53901 — kenneth.ebnetter@verizon.net

Swapfests And Other Social Events

August 10, 2002. Baraboo, WI Sixth Annual Circus City Swapfest, Saturday, August 10, 2002, 7:00 am till Noon. Sauk Co. Fairgrounds, Baraboo, WI. Vendors, tailgate area, free parking, camping, VE testing. For info, contact: Steve, N9UDO, 608-356-2313 or n9udo@arrl.net. Website www.qsl.net/ytarc/hamfest.htm.

September 6, 2002. Platteville, WI The Hidden Valleys Amateur Radio Club of Southwestern Wisconsin is proud to present the W9D special event station. "Wisconsin Niner Dairy" will celebrate the 55th Annual Dairy Days in Platteville on September 6-8 from 1500-2100z (Fri-Sun 10-4). The location is Mound View Park on County Road B (northeast side of town going out towards the Platte Mound with its famous huge letter M).

We plan on operating 80-6 meters on CW and sideband, also 2 meter FM. Rigs will be a new Ten-Tec Jupiter, Alinco DX 70TH, and probably a Yaesu FT-2500. Stop by and operate or just say "hi" if you're in the area. For a certificate,

please send a large SASE to HVARC, P.O. Box 112, Platteville, WI 53818-0112. QSL available on request (and an SASE).

September 20, 2002. Peoria, IL September 20-21-22, 2002. Peoria Superfest 2002. Exposition Gardens Fairgrounds, 1601 W Northmoor Rd., off 6300 N. University, Peoria, IL. Contact: Peoria Superfest, PO Box 3508, Peoria, IL 61612-3508. InfoLine: (309) 692-3378. E-mail: w9uvi@arrl.net. Website: www.w9uvi.org.

November 2, 2002. Waukesha, WI AMATEUR RADIO Fest 2002. The Milwaukee Repeater Club Waukesha County Expo Center Forum buildings, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission: \$5.00, tables \$15 per 8 ft. table. Electricity: \$15. Pancake breakfast 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. Food available all day. Info: www.execpc.com/~mrc. Email: mrc@execpc.com. Telephone: 262-367-3953.

November 3, 2002. Menasha, WI SWAPMEET 2002. Sponsor: Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club (FCARC). Sabre Lanes, 1330 Midway Road, Menasha, Wisconsin. Seller table setup 6:00 a.m. Open to public 8:00 a.m. EZ Access: Take 47 ramp (Appleton Road

Exit) South off US 441, its just a couple of blocks to the 6500 sq. ft. meeting facility at Sabre Lanes. Talk in on 146.52 MHz simplex. Info: Hamfest Phone: 920-733-3113. Email: n9rjz@arrl.net. Web: WWW.W9ZL.AMPR.ORG.

January 4, 2003. Waukesha, WI West Allis Radio Amateur Club (WARAC) Midwinter Swapfest. Waukesha County Expo Center Forum. 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Info: Phil Gural, W9NAW, 414-425-3649. Web: www.warac.org.

SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS

WISCONSIN NINER DAIRY DAYS

September 6, 2002, Platteville, WI. The Hidden Valleys Amateur Radio Club of Southwestern Wisconsin is proud to present the W9D special event station. "Wisconsin Niner Dairy" will celebrate the 55th Annual Dairy Days in Platteville on September 6-8 from 1500-2100z (Fri-Sun 10-4). The location is Mound View Park on County Road B (northeast side of town going out towards the Platte Mound with its famous huge letter M).

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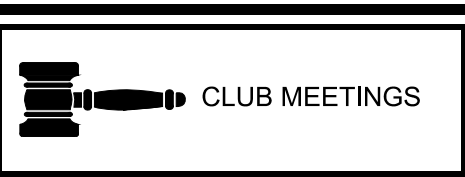
WORLD CHEESE FESTIVAL

Special Event station W9C in Monroe WI on Sept 20- 22nd 2002. This event usually draws 190,000 fans every 2 years. And this years event will probably top 2000's reports when there were 1,470 certificates mailed out to contacts as far as Sidney Australia.

We presently plan to have 9 licensed operators working the bands 24/7 from 12 a.m. Sept 20 - 12pm Sept 22nd on bands 160, 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10, 6, 2m, 220mhz, 440mhz with an ATV transmitter for local TV broadcast of down town Monroe WI 53566. For further information contact:

w9c2002@yahoo.com

All completed QSLs will receive a color glossy 11x8-1/2" Wall certificate with the event call and the operators call. Looking for further volunteers and operators.



Due to space limitations, we cannot always carry the full listing of club meetings. Please see the May 2002 listing for club meetings in your area. There have been no reported changes since that listing.

If your club meetings have changed or you wish to have your club listed, contact: Ken Ebnetter, K9EN at the address listed elsewhere on this page.

The Test Point



Amateur Radio Examination Locations and Schedules in the Area

August 02, 2002	St. Paul, MN
August 06, 2002	Apple Valley, MN
August 10, 2002	Eau Claire, W
August 10, 2002	Blaine, MN
August 10, 2002	Madison, WI
August 10, 2002	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
August 17, 2002	Loves Park, IL
August 17, 2002	Cottage Grove, MN
August 17, 2002	Appleton, WI
August 20, 2002	Eden Prairie, MN
August 24, 2002	Bloomington, MN
August 31, 2002	Tomahawk, WI
September 07, 2002	St. Paul, MN
September 07, 2002	Racine, WI
September 12, 2002	Apple Valley, MN
September 14, 2002	Onalaska, WI
September 14, 2002	Madison, WI
September 14, 2002	Blaine, MN
September 14, 2002	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
September 14, 2002	Sheboygan, WI
September 17, 2002	Eden Prairie, MN
September 21, 2002	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
September 21, 2002	Loves Park, IL
September 21, 2002	Cottage Grove, MN
September 28, 2002	Bloomington, MN
September 28, 2002	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
September 28, 2002	Tomahawk, WI
October 05, 2000	Racine, WI
October 05, 2002	St. Paul, MN
October 10, 2002	Apple Valley, MN
October 12, 2002	Madison, WI
October 12, 2002	Blaine, MN
October 12, 2002	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
October 19, 2002	Eau Claire, WI
October 19, 2002	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
October 19, 2002	Loves Park, IL
October 19, 2002	Cottage Grove, MN
October 22, 2002	Eden Prairie, MN
October 26, 2002	Bloomington, MN
October 26, 2002	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
October 26, 2002	Tomahawk, WI
November 02, 2002	Racine, WI
November 02, 2002	St. Paul, MN
November 02, 2002	Menomonie, WI
November 03, 2002	Appleton, WI
November 09, 2002	Madison, WI
November 09, 2002	Blaine, MN
November 09, 2002	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
November 09, 2002	Onalaska, WI
November 14, 2002	Apple Valley, MN
November 16, 2002	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
November 16, 2002	Loves Park, IL
November 16, 2002	Cottage Grove, MN
November 19, 2002	Eden Prairie, MN
November 19, 2002	Sheboygan, WI
November 23, 2002	Bloomington, MN
November 30, 2002.	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
December 07, 2002	Eau Claire, WI
December 07, 2002	St. Paul, MN
December 07, 2002	Racine, WI
December 12, 2002	Apple Valley, MN
December 14, 2002	Madison, WI
December 14, 2002	Blaine, MN
December 14, 2002	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
December 17, 2002	Eden Prairie, MN
December 28, 2002	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
December 28, 2002	Loves Park, IL
December 28, 2002	Cottage Grove, MN
December 28, 2002	Bloomington, MN
Monthly, 1st Sat.	Racine, WI
(except Jan., Jul., & Aug.)	
Monthly, 1st Sat.	St. Paul, MN
Monthly, 2nd Thu.	Apple Valley, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Madison, WI
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Blaine, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
Monthly, 3rd Tue.	Eden Prairie, MN
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
(September through April)	
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Loves Park, IL
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Cottage Grove, MN
Monthly, 4th Sat.	Bloomington, MN
Monthly, Last Sat.	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
(except Mar., Jun., Aug., & Dec.)	
Monthly, Last Sat.	Tomahawk, WI
(January thru October only)	

Badger State Smoke Signals

Amateur Radio Education and Information

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EDITORIAL BOARD: Ken Ebnetter, K9EN; Don Evenson, K9JYX.

Subscription Rate

1 year (6 issues—bi-monthly)\$13.95

A subscription form is in this issue. Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month before the issue date. For example, the closing date for the May issue is April 1. The only exception is for participating clubs' minutes. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than the 9th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections, and exchange papers should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Editorial material, photographs, and feature articles should be sent to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

Web page material should be sent to n9qa@arrl.net (Dave Knaus, N9QA).

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebnetter.

Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Swapfest ADS should be sent to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN no later than eight weeks before the events date.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Ken Ebnetter.

Conditions for Reprinting or BBS Posting Material from Badger State Smoke Signals

Permission is hereby granted to reprint articles or posting articles on radio or telephone bulletin boards from *Badger State Smoke Signals*, providing credit is given to the original author, publication in which the article first appeared, and to *Badger State Smoke Signals*.

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Badger State Smoke Signals is incorporated as a Wisconsin non-stock, non-for-profit organization.

Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.

GENERAL RULES FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS Be sure to check with sponsors before going to an examination session. There may be changes and/or errors in the dates or information given. Some examinations require filing an FCC or NCVEC Form 605 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. Some VE teams permit walkins. Check with the sponsor.

Many hamfests and swapfests offer examinations. A hamfest entrance fee should not be charged if you come only to attend the examination. To register in advance, you must get a copy of the current FCC Form 605, and fill it out completely and correctly. Got your form from the FCC as instructed below, or from the American Radio Relay League, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. Please send an SASE if you request a form from the League. FCC Field Offices seldom stock forms. You can also get a form from

http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html
or
ftp://ftp.fcc.gov/pub/Forms/Form605.

A form by FAX is available at (202) 418-0177 (request Form 000605). The FCC Forms Distribution Center will accept orders at (800) 418-3676. Form 605 has a main form, plus a Schedule D with two parts (for Vanity and Physician's Certifications). Forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

See QST, WIAW bulletins, or The ARRL Letter regarding any annual exam fee changes. ARRL/VEC no longer gives a free code test or Element 2. Test fees: The ARRL/VEC has set its 2001 test fee at \$10.00. FCC requires applicants to show their original amateur license or CSCE to the VE team. You must also have a good copy of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 605 and most VE teams need a copy for their records. One good CSCE copy is sufficient. You are also be required to have a photo ID, or two other forms of ID. Contact the VE team for details.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only. Proof must be either in the form of a pre-3/21/87 license document or a "Letter of Verification of Technician License Held Prior to 1987" as requested in writing from the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245. For those with internet access, a listing of exam sessions is available from:

http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml

By checking this page, you can find registered VE sessions anywhere in the US and some overseas. You can search by country, state or zip code. The listing is not specific to any particular VEC. It is a master database. Thanks to Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, ARRL/VEC

Appleton, WI. Fox Cities ARC (ARRL/VEC) All regular test sessions are held at the American Red Cross Building in Appleton. Testing starting at 8 a.m. No walk-ins after 9 a. m. For information, contact George R. Croy, W9MDP, 2113 Twin Willows Drive, Appleton, WI. 54914. (920) 730-0967. Email: w9mdp@arrl.net.

Eau Claire, Wisconsin
Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club Inc.
August 10, 2002, October 19, 2002, December 7, 2002 Eau Claire, WI 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM. South Middle School North East Side Door 7, 2115 Mitscher Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54701 Walk-Ins Welcome. For further information contact: Steve Bluem, KA9OMY Email 715-839-6509 or http://www.ecarc.org/vetest.htm

Fort Atkinson, WI. Tri-County Amateur Radio Club Second Thursday monthly except June to August, 7 p.m. Dwight Foster Public Library in Fort Atkinson. Contact: Glenn Eisenbrandt, WA9VYL, 920-563-6502, or John Satterlee, WA9SAB, 920-563-6381.

Madison, WI. First Saturday monthly: 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Space Place, 1605 South Park Street, Madison. Please bring a picture ID, your original license, a copy of your license, and the original and a copy of any relevant CSCEs, and a check for \$10.00 made out to the ARRL/VEC. No appointments are necessary to take exams. Exams start promptly at 8 a.m. Questions may be directed to Tim Czerwonka, WO9U, at 608-239-3696 (home phone) or sent to wo9u@arrl.net.

Milwaukee, WI. Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club (MRAC VEC) Last Saturday, ex-

cept in March, June, August, and December. In addition, we test at the West Allis RAC Swapfest in January and at Superfest in April. 9:30 a.m. to noon at Amateur Electronic Supply (AES), 5710 W. Good Hope Road (the door you enter is actually numbered 5730), Milwaukee. For additional information, call (262) 797-MRAC. Bring along your original license, CSCE (if any), and one (1) good quality photocopy of each, plus two forms of identification, such a driver's license, etc. Also required is \$8.00 for the exam fee. Walkins are welcome. To register in advance, use a postcard. Print the grade of license you are applying for, your name, address, and telephone number, and send the card to MRAC/VEC, Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club, P.O. Box 070695, Milwaukee, WI. 53207. Contact: John G. Kraak, 262-797-6722.

Milwaukee, WI. Badger Examiners (W5YI VEC) September thru April, every third Saturday morning, 9:30 a.m. to noon. Badger Examiners group tests at AES (Amateur Electronic Supply) at 60th and Good Hope, Milwaukee (use the entrance numbered 5730). Exams are given at the old Sterman Printing shop, just 300 feet west of the AES store. Novice to Extra are offered, and all test materials are provided. Fee is \$10.00, and bring your original license, or CSCE if needed. Also available are Commercial license exams GROL (General Radiotelephone license), GMDSS, Telegraph, Etc. Fee is \$35.00. For more information call Gary Sharbuno, WI. 9M at (414) 355-0237.

Oshkosh, WI. (Omro)Oshkosh VE Team Amateur Radio exams monthly on the first Saturday. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and exams will be given from 9 a.m. until noon. Omro Community Center, 130 W. Larrabee, Omro, WI. . Walkins welcomed. Bring a good quality photocopy of your original license and any other necessary documents such as a CSCE, etc. The first session will be through W5YI/VEC, and then sessions will alternate between ARRL/VEC and W5YI/VEC. The exam fee is \$6.65. For more information, please call Dick Lemme, K9FA, at (920) 235-0987, e-mail: lemme@vbe.com, or write Dick at 826 Jefferson Street, Oshkosh, WI. 54901.

Racine, WI. Racine-Kenosha ARRL Amateur Radio Test Team (ARRL VEC). Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August. Monthly exams are given 9 to 11 a.m. at the Faith United Methodist Church, 1013 Harmony Drive, Racine. Walk-ins are permitted. Talk in on 147.87/27. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to Robert N. Jensen, W0WLN, 5616 Cambridge lane #6, Racine, WI. . Telephone (262) 886-8551. w0wln@wi.net.

Sheboygan, WI. Sheboygan County ARC (ARRL/VEC). Saturday, September 14 - 8:30 AM, Tuesday, November 19 - 6:30 PM. Test sessions are held in the Red Cross Building, 2032 Erie Avenue, Sheboygan, Wisconsin. Signage on the front door will direct candidates to the proper room in the building. The test site is handicap accessible. While walk-ins are welcome, a phone call or e-mail ahead of time would be appreciated. Applicants are reminded to bring the customary photo ID, CSCEs, current/former licenses, other supporting documentation, and test fee. Contact: Michael J. Musiel, 920-946-1476. Email: k9sj@arrl.net.

Tomahawk, WI. Tomahawk ARRL VE Team (ARRL/VEC). Last Saturday of every month, January thru October. Registration at 8:30 a.m. and testing starts at 9:00 a.m. For location or other information, inquire on 145.43 MHz. repeater or contact: Terry Collins, KB9AUP, W6564 Highway 8, Tomahawk, WI. 54487. Telephone (715) 453-4633, dcollins@newnorth.net.

St. Paul, MN. Saint Paul Radio Club (SPRC) First Saturday of the month, 8:30 a.m. Test Site: St. Paul Technical College, 235 Marshall Ave., St Paul, MN. Ed VanCleave, W0VC, (612) 636-0108. www.qsl.net/sprc/index.html.

Rockford, IL. Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (W5YI VEC) Third Saturday of every month. 9:00 a.m. to noon. No new applicants after 11:00 a.m. Walkins welcome. Held at North Suburban District Library, 6340 North Second St. (Hwy. 251), Loves Park, IL. Rusty Cordell, WB9QYV, 1823 Hulin St., Rockford, IL 61102-2619. (815) 968-0080. e-mail: WB9QYV@aol.com.

Wisconsin Scholarship Winners Announced

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc. has announced this year's winners of scholarships by Wisconsin Amateurs.

South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club Scholarships - \$1,000, Andrew J. Wagner, KB9TAC - Menomonie, WI

WARAC Memorial Scholarship - \$1,500 Sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club, Michael J. Haessler, KB9TGF – Wau-paca, WI

Ozaukee Radio Club Scholarship - \$1,000, Andrew A. Knitt, KB9JOZ - Rhinelander, WI

Virginia Beach Hamfest Scholarship - \$500, Phillip A. Bogacki, KB9KEE - Milwaukee, WI

These scholarships were open to all licensed Radio Amateurs meeting the qualification and residence requirements of the various sponsors. The FOUNDATION is a non-profit organization incorporated in the District of Columbia, representing more than seventy-five Amateur Radio clubs in Maryland, the District of Columbia and Northern Virginia. It is devoted exclusively to the scientific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service.

The announcement for the year 2003 awards will appear in the January or February issues of the major Amateur Radio publications and selected radio club newsletters. FAR Scholarships, Post Office Box 831, Riverdale, MD 20783.

Vanity Call Sign Fee Increase

The FCC has officially set \$14.50 as the cost to apply for, renew or reinstate an Amateur Radio vanity call sign. According to a Report and Order adopted July 3, the new fee will become effective for applications received on or after September 9. The current vanity fee is \$12 for the 10-year license term. The FCC had proposed the new, higher fee in a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (MD Docket No. 02-64) released March 27 to set Fiscal Year 2002 fees. A copy of the FCC Report and Order is available on the FCC Web site. (Complete story in The ARRL Letter, July 12, 2002)

The Great Circus Train

The 2002 run of The Great Circus Train was July 6-8 and was a big success. The team of six operators made 174 contacts on the trip from Baraboo to Milwaukee, mostly on 20 meters and 2 meters. If you worked W9D, QSL with SASE to Dave Knaus, N9QA, 252 Port Washington Rd., Grafton, WI 53024 for a commemorative QSL. QSLs will go out in a few weeks. You can check the log and QSL status here. This special event station was made possible through the generosity of Strong Funds, sponsor of the Great Circus Train.

SECTION NEWS

As you may have heard, as of January 2003, the Section News will no longer be in QST. Most of you can access the monthly news by going to the section website given above. For those without web access, a printed copy will be mailed upon request to ARRL. Details to follow at a later date.

73,
Don Michalski , W9IXG
Section Manager,
ARRL Wisconsin Section

HR 4720 bill private land-use rules for antennas

Wisconsin Amateur Radio Operators achieved a significant victory in the struggle against unreasonable antenna restrictions with the official state endorsement last Spring of the FCC PRB-1 ruling. However, now the effort is

moving to a new level: the attempt to apply PRB-1 standards to CC&Rs. Wisconsin hams are urged to contact their Congressional representatives, asking them to support HR 4720 - a bill aimed at preventing private land-use rules from "unreasonably interfering with" the installation and use of "appropriate antenna structures" for amateurs. Eighteen members of Congress (none of whom are from Wisconsin) have already "signed on" as sponsors of the bill. When contacting your representative, urge that he or she emphasize their support of HR 4720 by adding their name to the growing list of sponsors. A sample CC&R letter of support can be found at

www.arrl.org/govrelations/CC&R-Sample-Letter.html

Information on how to contact your representative can be found at

www.house.gov/writerep

The ARRL requests those writing or e-mailing members of Congress to copy ARRL at ccr-bill@arrl.org or CC&R Bill, ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111, Please contact your Congressional representative today!

Jim, AD9X
State Government Liaison

All WI hams with a General or higher license are encouraged to check into the RACES Sunday net.

Time: 0745 Hrs.
Primary frequency: 7250 KHz LSB
Alternate frequency: 3393.5 KHz LSB
73 de Mack N9NTB

READERS COMMENTS

Note: Comment refers to last issue article on HF Drill and Disaster Preparedness by Richard Polivka, N9NKO.

Please note that this military communications test the article refers to is a one-time test, and does not authorize amateur radio stations to use these frequencies. In addition, MARS frequencies are not available upon request, you MUST be a MARS member to use these frequencies. Not to nit pick, but I have received many requests for just this. Please let the rest of the "ham world" know that MARS stations are the only authorized users on mars frequencies. Thank you for the good article

Ron Henry
Assistant state director Navy Marine Corps MARS
n9kww/nnn0vag/nnn0gce one

ENGINEERING TRANSLATIONS

453.6 graham crackers:
1 pound cake

1 million microphones:
1 megaphone

10 cards:
1 decacards

Time between slipping on a peel and smacking the pavement:
1 bananosecond.

Shortest distance between two jokes:
A straight line. (think about it for a moment)

10 rations:
1 decoration

100 rations:
1 C-ration

3 statute miles of intravenous surgical tubing at Yale University Hospital:
1 I.V. League

Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Dean R. `Herriges, KB9ROB, Secretary
W370 S9590 Highway 67 • Eagle, WI 53119

WISCONSIN NETS					
Net	WNA	Freq.	UTC	CDT	Manager
BWN	YES	3985		1200	0600 W9RCW
BEN	YES	3985		1800	1200 KE9VU
WSBN	YES	3985		2330	1730 K9FHI
WNN	YES	3723		0000	1800 KB9ROB
WSSN	YES	3645		0030	1830 N9BDL
WIN/W	YES	3662		0100	1900 WB9ICH
WIN/L	YES	3662		0400	2200 W9UW
RCRA	NO	01/61		0130	1930 KA9OMC
(Mondays CST— Menomonie Area)					
Green Bay Area	NO	72/12		0345	2145 WB9NRK
ARES	NO	4.65/5.25		0300	2100
(South East/South Central Wisconsin)					

STM REPORT

WISCONSIN SECTION

APRIL 2002

What do you say?

When handling traffic with the voice mode, there are some ways to facilitate the process. Generally, when you check into a voice traffic net, you give the call of the NCS, listen, and then give your call followed by the word "traffic," if you have some. The net control will ask you to list your traffic when you are recognized, and you will say how many messages and the name of the city of destination.

Let's say you have four pieces of traf- fic, so you list them this way, "Two- Mil- waukee, one - Green Bay, one - Thru (going to a higher level of the NTS to go out of state)." The net control will acknowledge your list.

When you are directed to send your messages, the NCS will probably say, "Your Call, move to (a nearby frequency) and send your two Milwaukee to W9YCV" (or some other stalwart traffic handler in the Milwau- kee area). You will go to the frequency and listen for the receiving station. You don't call first, since the receiver has to find a clear spot in which to copy your traffic. When you are called, you respond to see if the station hears you okay and is ready to copy. You'd say, "W9YCV, this is _____. Are you ready to copy?" (No sense in sending a bunch only to realize it's not being received.) Your re- ceiving station tells you to go ahead, so you start. In the preamble, you do not need to label the parts. It's customary to say "number" before the message number, but, after that, the receiver already knows what's

coming next, so you can just say the prece- dence, handling instructions, station of ori- gin, check, place of origin, and date without saying the words, "precedence, handling in- structions, station of origin," etc. That's why we have a message format; it saves time.

Well-adjusted VOX can let the receiv- ing station interrupt you and ask for repeats as you go along, or you can just pause briefly after the preamble, addressee, and text.

As you send the addressee and address, be methodical. Pace yourself. Spell out diffi- cult names or streets. Say the telephone num- ber in three parts, 920 (pause) 563 (pause) 1421. Between the address and the text, say the word, "Break." This tells the receiving station that you are starting the next part of the message. It's also a good time to stand by in case the receiving operator needs any fills so far, but don't expect a response. If you don't hear anything, go ahead with the text. Here's where labels sometimes help. If you are going to say a letter group which is not an actual word, you can label it as "letter group" before you say it. This also works for number groups and mixed groups (those with numbers and letters). Spell out difficult words. If there are ARRL numbered mes- sages in the text, they are always spelled out. It's "ARL SIXTY NINE" not "ARL 69." At the end of the text, say the word, "Break" again to indicate you are changing to the next section of the message, the signature. After the signature, you would say, "End, one to follow." This means it's the end of this mes- sage but you have one more for Milwaukee. If you didn't, you'd say "End, no more."

Next month ---- what the receiving sta- tion might say.

73 - K9LGU/ STM-Wisconsin

STM Report - Wisconsin

May, 2002

How to Answer Last month, we con- sidered what the sending station says when checking in to a net, listing and passing traf- fic. So what happens if you can handle the traffic listed for Somewhere?

The first statement you will say can be when you check in or after the NCS asks who can handle traffic for Somewhere, Wis- consin. You give your call followed by, "I can take Somewhere." The NCS will give you instructions -- either to handle the traffic on frequency or to move. For example, the NCS might say, "K9LGU, call N9BDL and pick up one Somewhere." You will call the station with the traffic on net frequency, check the copy if necessary, tell him to go ahead and begin to copy the message.

If the NCS says, "K9LGU, call N9BDL and arrange," you (the receiving station) sug- gest a frequency and move. You know best where you have a TV birdie or how badly the splatter down the band is affecting your re- ception. You pick the spot, ask if the fre- quency is in use, and call the station with the traffic.

Chances are, the sending station will break often during the sending of the mes- sage, so you can interrupt and ask for clarifi- cation or repeats. If not, when the sending station completes the message and stands by, you can ask for fills. There are some easy ways to do it. You might just say, "Please repeat the message number," or "Please con- firm the phone number as 920-563-2439." If you're uncertain about the spelling, you might ask "Please spell phonetically the word after..."

The prowords included on the famous pink card, ARRL Operating Aid FSD-218, can be very helpful. Some of them are, "All after..., All before..., Break (the separation between addressee and the text or the text and the signature), Confirm..., Say again..."

Sometimes a sending operator tends to speak a little too fast for the neophyte re- ceiver. If the sender writes out the message as he sends it, this is less likely. The request, "Please speak slower," is always honored. The idea is to get the message through -- ac- curately.

73 - K9LGU/ STM-Wisconsin

WISCONSIN SECTION

STM REPORT

JUNE 2002

On Doing the Right Thing

The net should have started four min- utes ago. There are stations on frequency, waiting to list or receive traffic. The net con- trol is missing. You call up the net and either turn it over to the regular NCS when he shows, or simply run the show yourself. If you don't, the National Traffic System isn't much of a system.

The skip is too long. The net members aren't hearing each other. The traffic can't even be efficiently relayed. As NCS, you announce a new frequency and move the whole net to a better band. If you don't, the net can't function.

Tonight you are NCS, but there's a QSO going on net frequency and it's time to call up the net. You know you could ask for the fre- quency or just turn on your amplifier, but what impression would that give of your net operation? Politely, you move up the band a few KHz and start the proceedings.

There's traffic listed for Podunk Hollow which you can handle via a local two meter repeater. You volunteer. If you don't pick it up, it will be listed a few times and be serv- iced to the originating station without deliv- ery.

It's time to send a message, so you pre- pare it in ARRL format, including the check. This way, the receiving station can be more certain that the text is right - and it serves as a

good example to others listening. Counting isn't all that hard and the famous pink card (FSD-218) has all you need for the details of the format. If you don't, there's danger of error and a missed opportunity for some easy training.

You are busily passing traffic, when the receiving station asks you to speed up (QRQ) or slow down (QRS). You value the other operator's time, so you comply. If you don't it may mean more fills or repeats or a lesser chance that the receiver will want to take traf- fic from you again.

It's another one of those generic mes- sages from someone who doesn't really know the addressee. Instead of complaining about it, you take and deliver the traffic, meet a nice person on the phone, and make a note to originate some not-so-generic traffic yourself to keep the NTS in tune. Without traffic, it will fade.

Someone has traffic for Ninth Region Net and no regular rep has checked in to the net. You graciously volunteer to take the traffic from our section net to the next level. If you don't, the system breaks down.

You remember it's a hobby. You try to keep nets and all of your Ham activity in per- spective. You know the nets need your par- ticipation, and so does your family. You choose to keep a balance. If you don't, some- thing suffers.

You see, when you eliminate the choices with less positive results, only the right thing is, er, left.

73 -- K9LGU/STM

WISCONSIN SECTION MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY APRIL 2002					
NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM
BWN	1208	1377	2250	30	W9RCW
BEN	495	46	809	30	KE9VU
WSBN	634	62	882	30	K9FHI
WNN	230	14	377	30	KB9ROB
WSSN	201	14	296	31	N9BDL
WIN/E	247	94	312	29	WB9ICH
WIN/L	247	55	328	30	W9UW
totals	3262	1662	5254	210	

WISCONSIN SECTION MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY May 2002					
NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM
BWN	1292	1464	2345	31	W9RCW
BEN	432	46	733	31	KE9VU
WSBN	582	62	791	31	K9FHI
WNN	208	6	345	30	KB9ROB
WSSN	191	14	302	30	N9BDL
WIN/E	219	61	328	31	WB9ICH
WIN/L	250	57	349	31	W9UW
totals	3164	1709	5176	213	

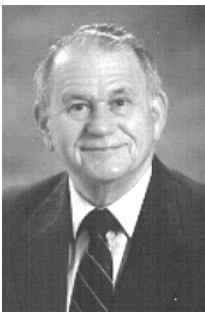
continued on page 7

Check us out on the web at

Http://www.bs

The Computer

By Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR • 105 Martin Drive
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(262) 284-9346
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No. 102. The System File Checker

- by Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR
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(262) 284-9346
skaplan@mcw.edu

Did you know that Windows 98 has a built-in System File Checker? This handy tool will check all your critical operating system files for any that are corrupt. If any are found, it will give you a chance to restore fresh copies from the installation disk. Moreover, if set up correctly, it will also check for missing and updated files, and will keep its findings in its own little database so that it knows, next time, what it found this time. Not bad. A good way to make sure your system is tuned up and working to peak efficiency.

Before you start, make sure you have your Win98 installation CD-ROM handy, if needed to restore a file. It is also a good idea to close Norton System Doctor if you use it (don't just minimize it; close it), and to temporarily disable any virus scanner. If you use Norton Antivirus (You should! It's the best.), temporarily disable its Auto-protect feature. Now, you are ready to begin.

Click **Start, Programs, Accessories, System Tools and System Information**. Once in the System Information screen, select **Tools** on the header bar, then **System File Checker**. Read the panel so you know what you are doing. Then click the Settings button.

On the settings bar, there are two boxes to be concerned with, at the bottom left of the panel. The first is **Check for changed files**. I recommend you select this box, but be aware that when the checker is running it will notify you of every file that has changed in size or version number since the original installation. It may find dozens of changes, which can be boring after you read the first few warnings. However, that's OK, because when you are tired of responding to these warnings, it is possible to select a box that will update all changed files, saving you the necessity of responding to each one. It will also record all the new versions in its database, so you won't be bothered next time you run the File Checker.

The other box to check is **Check for deleted files**. Again, select this box and be prepared to encounter a number of files that were deleted when you actually start the checker. For example, if you use Norton's Virus Scanner and have updated the program or virus definitions since the original installation, there will be 12 old files that the update deleted and replaced by new files. The checker will detect these. Don't restore these. Just let Win-

dows update its data. Again, once the checker is running, if you wish, select the box that will appear allowing the checker to update its database for all deleted files to speed the process up.

Now you are ready to actually start the checker. Click OK to close the Settings panel, and click Start. Likely, you won't have time to sit back and relax until a warning message pops up telling you of a file that has changed or has been deleted. I recommend you click the Update Information bullet for each of these, and when you get tired of doing that, click the Update Information for all deleted files (or all changed files). That will speed things up considerably. Watching the process for the first few files is a learning experience for you (and for the checker, since it records everything in its database), but you can't possibly know if all the deleted and changed files are valid, so just let it go on with its job of recording everything for the first time. However, next time you run the checker, there should be no files deleted or changed unless you did an upgrade of some kind.

The real value of the System Checker is evident when it detects a corrupt file. It will think a file is corrupt if it has the same version number and date of the original installation file, but has a different size (number of bytes). If that is the case, maybe a cosmic ray hit the directory, changing a number in the file size. Or maybe a virus altered the file in some way. If a corrupt file is encountered, you will be presented with a screen that will permit you to restore a fresh copy from the installation disk.

If that screen appears, select **Extract one file from the installation disk**. Then, if not already typed in for you, enter the name of the file to extract. Then, in the **Restore From** box, type in the name of the folder on the installation disk where the .cab files are located. The .cab files are files that contain many files within them in compressed form, just like a .zip file. If you are using the Win98 installation disk, put it in your CD-ROM drive at this time, and type **D:\Win98** for the location, where D: is the letter of your CD-ROM drive. Click **OK**, and the current (corrupt) file will be replaced by a fresh copy from the CD-ROM. Of course, if you followed my advice in Number 100: A Better Way to Install Windows 98 (available on the First 100 CD-ROM), you don't need an installation disk at all. Just point to the W98Flat folder on your hard drive, and the .cab file will be there.

That's it. Run the System File Checker periodically (maybe every couple of months) to insure the integrity of your important files. A great way to help keep your machine tuned up. Happy computing!

No. 103. How Do You Get the Labels Off?

- by Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR
105 Martin Drive
Port Washington, WI 53074-9654
(262) 284-9346
skaplan@mcw.edu

I have been asked this by many hams over the years, and thought the answer(s) would be worth sharing, even though it is a rather mundane topic. Basically, how do

you get old labels off of floppy disks? The answer applies not only to floppies, but also to pill bottles, household cleaning containers and most any kind of plastic, glass or metal container that a ham might want to use. My approach comes from a lot of personal experimenting, but also from consultation with an engineer whose job it was to design the "sticky" in sticky labels. He and I were having dinner together after judging the state Science Fair, and when I found out what he did for a living, dinner conversation consisted of me

pumping him about sticky stuff!

The best way, of course, is to simply peel off the label in one piece. Many times that will work straight away. However, the engineer gave me one useful tip. The secret is to do it oh so very sloooowly. The adhesives holding many labels to their containers or floppy disks are rubber cement or some modern polymer that resembles rubber cement in its properties. The adhesives will stretch and finally let go if pulled slowly, but are very tenacious when stressed rapidly. A quick pull will either cause the cement to tear, resulting in glue residue on the container surface, or it will cause the paper label itself to tear because the glue is stronger than the label. So, if you have a stack of floppies to de-label, do it slowly while watching the evening news.

Another tip I discovered is that, once you tease up a corner of the label, pull the label nearly in the same plane as the container or floppy surface. Don't pull up, away from the surface. Try to have the label folded back on itself as you pull to release it from the surface. I don't really know why, but the labels tear much less frequently when stressed this way than if pulled away from the surface to which they are stuck. It may have something to do with the shear plane of the thin layer of glue.

Heat can be a very real ally in getting the glue to release cleanly. If you are working with any kind of container, fill it with very hot tap water and let it sit for a minute or two before you start peeling. Often, the heat will soften the glue, which will release its hold on the container very nicely. Use care, though, not to get the label wet. A wet label will tear much more easily than a dry one. For a glass or metal container, you can even use a heat gun or hair dryer to warm up the label (and the glue). Use care, though, since a heat gun can start a fire. Please avoid that! I don't recommend using a heat source to soften glue on a floppy. It often will warp or partially melt the protective plastic jacket, which is definitely not good for the throat of your computer's disk drive. So, for floppies, use the following method.

Dip a Q-tip in ordinary paint thinner, turpentine or mineral spirits. Yes, WD-40, olive oil, butter and a number of other oil-based solvent containing products will work, but plain old paint thinner is cheap (\$2/gallon), and the Q-tip method will let you put the solvent just where it is needed.

Do not use products containing the solvents acetone or ether. Not only do these solvents stink, they are also more dangerous to your health than paint thinner and they pose a much greater fire hazard. Paint thinner is flammable, too, but it is not nearly so volatile as acetone or ether. The proof of this is that paint thinner does not smell as strongly, which means that less is evaporating into the air. Furthermore, acetone and ether will dissolve the plastic housing of floppy disks, while paint thinner will not damage most plastics. Use a Q-tip to saturate just the label, and avoid slopping it all over other areas of the disk. The label will immediately darken as the paint thinner soaks into the paper fibers. It needs to penetrate those fibers and wick all the way through the paper to reach and soften the underlying adhesive, so put enough on to saturate the label. Then, go have a cup of coffee or do something else for at least 10 minutes. When you come back, the label should peel off nicely.

Paint thinner may not penetrate some plastic-coated paper labels very well. You can tell that a coating is impeding penetration if the label doesn't darken quickly when you apply the paint thinner. This just means you may have to saturate the label more than once. Do it, let it soak for 10 minutes, then saturate it again. Rest assured, it will eventually soak through. Use patience; have two cups of coffee. Again, peel slowly so that the label does not tear. The aim is to have it come off in one piece. If it does tear, abandon that edge and start peeling again from another intact corner of the label. When the label is off, moisten your paper towel-covered finger with a minimal amount of paint thinner, and use this to clean off any residual glue on the surface. Dry the surface with a dry corner of the paper towel, and you are finished.

This method will work in almost every case. However, you may come across a label that will just not let go of the surface it is stuck to. I estimate that perhaps 1% of the thousands of floppies I have cleaned fall into this category. The solution? Throw that one away. It is not worth the effort.

There you have it. I hope you will forgive me for wandering off the high-tech topics for a moment. But the question is often asked, which means that people are interested in the answer. Just trying to meet a need. Happy Computing!

Computer Corner:

First 100 on CD-ROM

Several years ago, Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR), author of the Computer Corner column in BSSS, released a compilation of the first 48 articles. A very strong response indicated that readers want a complete set of the articles. We now announce the release of the First 100, on CD-ROM.

All 100 articles are in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format, and there is an Index of Titles as well. Furthermore, the powerful search and link capabilities of the Acrobat Reader have been harnessed to make use of the CD-ROM a snap.

In the Index of Titles file on the CD-ROM, a click on any title will take you to the complete article, and you can switch back and forth between the articles and

Index at will. Moreover, you can perform searches for individual words, and the search results will show all articles that contain those words. A click will take you to any article in the list of those found, and the search words in that article will appear as highlighted text. Clearly, these capabilities make the CD-ROM a valuable reference tool for quickly finding topics of interest.

If you don't have a copy of the Acrobat Reader, or if your copy is old, the latest version (5.0.5) is included on the CD-ROM, along with installation instructions.

The CD-ROM, including all the files and the Adobe Acrobat Reader, will be mailed to you for \$15.00 postpaid. Send your order with payment to the address below. Sorry, no credit card orders. Proceeds will benefit Wisconsin ARES/RACES.

Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR
105 Martin Drive
Port Washington, WI 53074-9654

Check us out on the web at
[Http://www.bsss.org](http://www.bsss.org)

Mancorad Radio Club

Theresa Hartlaub, KB9KXE
Secretary

P.O. Box 294 • Manitowoc, WI
54221-0204



2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61

MAY 2002

The Mancorad Radio Club May meeting was called to order by President Fred (W6BSF) at 7:35 p.m. Minutes were read and approved by motions made by Red (N9GHE) and Vic (WB9VYO). The Treasurer's report was also given and approved by motions made by Red (N9GHE) and Ken (K9HAG).

All RACES members and would be members were reminded to fill out new forms. The Sheboygan Ham Club is looking for help with their Rockets for Schools program. This will be held May 17th and 18th. Anyone who is interested in helping in any way should contact Fred.

Our first brat fry will be held May 10th and 11th at Green Tree Market. Red's tent will be put up on Friday at 7:30 am.

Prices have been set for brats and burgers for \$1.50 and double brat and burgers for \$2.50. Fred discussed the sign up sheet as to times for everyone to work. There will be 2 more brat fries at Piggly Wiggly in July and one in August at Green Tree Market. Volunteers are needed. Contact Mary (KB9GOY). The annual club picnic is set for Sept. 28th at Lincoln Park. Ken (K9HAG) and Bob (KB9INK) are in charge.

Our annual Christmas party is set for Jan.3, 2003 at Cedar Ridge. Dick (N9QFY) will be in charge of the party.

There will be a highway clean up on Tues. or Thurs. right before Memorial Day. Listen on the Sunday net for more information.

Net control procedure handouts were available for anyone interested in running the Sunday net. More people are needed to do this once a week.

The Ham shack clean up will be Tues., May 21st at 6:00. About 8 people will be needed. The floors need buffing, chairs wiped down, bathroom and kitchen cleaned. Anyone

willing to help please contact Fred.

Fred showed a video on the sub event. This was shown on Channel 2, WBAY TV. There was very good coverage. A total of 806 contacts were made and 14-15 subs contacted. Fred received a round of applause for taking on the QSL cards. The attendance drawing was held. KB9KXE was drawn, but not in attendance. The pot will go to \$8.00.

Carl, KA9WYK gave a very interesting demo on the MANCORAD website. There is a lot of informative information on it. Check it out at www.geocities.com/W9DK. There is also a link from Travis on SKYWARN.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 with a motion by Red (N9GHE) and Ken (K9HAG). A huge THANK YOU to Mary, KB9GOY, for taking the meeting minutes for me.

Respectively submitted,
Theresa KB9KXE, Secretary

MEETING ATTENDANCE:

W6BSF	Fred
KB9GOY	Mary
N9QFY	Dick
N9GHE	Red
KB9YRC	Travis
N4WGK	Denise
W9NPX	Roger
W9OUT	Hub
K9HAG	Ken
K9WIX	Clancy
WB9VYO	Vic
KB9NTL	Don
N9WUN	Chuck
K9LWI	Larry
KB9EME	Vern
N9XEZ	Bill
N9FVZ	Dan
KB9INK	Bob
KA9WYK	Carl

JUNE 2002

The monthly meeting of Mancorad Radio Club was called to order by President Fred (W6BSF) at 7:32 p.m. The previous minutes were summarized and approved by motions by Ken (K9HAG) and Shawn (KC9AAH). The treasurer's report was given and approved by Red (N9GHE) and John (NZ9Z).

Fred passed around sheets for various club events coming up. Everyone was encouraged to sign up as much as they can. They included: The Kewaunee Trout Fest and Bike-a-thon held on July 20th. There will be around 350 riders. Contact Jim (KB9GOX) for any further information; The Leukemia Bike-a-thon also held on July 20-21. Steve (N9PBL) is again handling this for our club; Brat Fry at the Manitowoc Piggly Wiggly on July 26-27th and Brat Fry at The Green Tree Market on August 9th and 10th. These brat fries are being held instead of the Hamfest.

President Fred reported that there may be a possibility of having a small station set up in the Manitowoc Maritime Museum. They will let us know of the space available.

All members were warned of companies offering their services in helping to renew your license. This can be done for free.

A thank you was given to Ken (K9HAG), Mary, (KB9GOY), Dan (N9FVZ), Vic (WB9VYO), Red (N9GHE), Dick (N9QFY), and Fred (W6BSF) for coming and cleaning the club shack. They did a wonderful job.

June 22 is designated as American Radio Recognition Day in Wisconsin. A letter was read concerning all the good radio operators do for the public. Field day will be held in Sheboygan on June 21-23. All members are invited to participate. It will be held at Taylor Park, across from the Penneys store. Bob (KB9INK) made the club a tower jack for the club. It is available to all club members to use. It will be kept at the club shack.

Red (N9GHE) has the Red Cross tower and needs to move it off his place. It is 40' and is a tilt over style. Contact Red for details. He

will place it on the website.

Thank you to Julie (N9PZX) and Dick (N9QFY) for doing the highway clean up. Appreciation certificates were handed out for those who were involved with the Cobia event. They included Dan F. and children Gina and Tony, Red, Bob, Vern, John, Ray K, Travis, Roger and Denise.

Tom Aschenbrenner was instrumental in securing the new call sign for the Cobia. It is N9BQV.

The attendance drawing was held. Rahlf (N9AWG) was not here so the pot goes to 9.00.

The next meeting will be July 10th at the club shack.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

W6BSF	Fred
KB9KXE	Theresa
KB9YRC	Travis
K9HAG	Ken
N9GHE	Red
KC9AAH	Shawn
N4WGK	Denise
W9OUT	Hub
W9NPX	Roger
N9WUN	Chuck
NZ9Z	John
WB9VYO	Vic
KC9ARV	Ray
N9PZX	Julie
KB9GOX	James
KB9GOY	Mary
KA9WYK	Carl
KB9KXF	Gene
KB9NTL	Don
KB9EME	Vern
KB9INK	Bob
N9FVZ	Dan
N9QFY	Dick

Respectively submitted,
Theresa Hartlaub, Secretary, KB9KXE

Wisconsin Valley Radio Association

Rich Nesbitt, N9WPH, Secretary

P.O. Box 363 • Wausau, WI

Meeting Minutes of May 7, 2002, at Marshfield Clinic - Wausau Center.

President Mark Rasmussen called meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Program: The program for this meeting was a videotape by Kim, N9SDL working RTTY in the WPX contest. On the video Kim explained how RTTY works and showed how to tune to a station also how the software he uses works. Kim explained how the contest is scored with the contacts and multipliers adding to a final score. The radio used a sound card interface connected to the computer. The sound card is connected to the radios audio input and keyed bay the computer.

Present: N9UAG, KB9YPS, KC9AEJ, KB9VBR, W9GLG, KC9ASL, KB9STB, N9NMH, KB9PVI, N9MEA, KC9BMD, N9NRA, KC9BFW, N9PHC, N9LIA, W9WW, KC9NW, KB9ZOF, WA9NBC, N3FDE, N9TTA, N9LAE, KC9ANA, N9MO, N9SDL, KB9YDP.

Secretary's Report: Minutes of the April 2, 2002 meeting were accepted as published in Badger State Smoke Signals and/or posted on the WVRA Web Site. (home.dwave.net/~wvra)

Treasurer's Report:

Motion to accept: KB9STB Sec-
ond: N9NRA

New Board Members were elected at the April 2, 2002 meeting, and Officers were elected at the Board Meeting April 16, 2002. They are

N9MEA, Mark Rasmussen, President
KB9STB, Myron Oestreich, Vice President

W9GLG, Jerry Graebel, Secretary
N9MO, Rich Nesbitt, Treasurer
KC9AEJ, Jon Gelhaus, Net Manager
N9NMH, Matt Baumann, Equipment Manager

KB9VBR, Mike Martens, Program Manager

Old Business:

1. Jack, N9LIA thanked all who helped with the MS Walk on April 14th. It went very well and had no problems. The total was not in but he mentioned that the walk might have raised more money than last year. Thanks to: N9LIA, N9TTA, KB9RXA, KB9VBR, KB9DED, W9WW, KB9STB, N9MEA, N9NMH, KC9BFW, KB9OPQ, KB9ZHI.

2. Kim, N9SDL reminded everyone that Field Day will be June 22 & 23. There will be a sheet at the next meeting to sign if you can help with setup, takedown or if you plan to operate. The club will be setting up at Sunnysvale Park at about 7:00 A.M. with the stations on the air at 1:00 P. M. Plans are to run RTTY, CW, SSB on HF and VHF/UHF also a 6 meter SSB station. There will also be a GOTA station for getting people on the air and make some casual contacts. The club will run the 5A class. Remember this is the first year that all of Region 2 will participate.

3. The antenna for the clubs 220 repeater is still on hold.

4. The power supply for the club 440 repeater may not be necessary. Mark N9MEA is looking at some other option.

5. The APRS Group tuned more radios and programmed a few TNCs to get a few more operators on the air. The club gave a demonstration at the Tomahawk club meeting in April. Myron, KB9STB mentioned that The Eau Claire area might be on the air this week. Andy, N9NRA mentioned an interest in the Hayward area and that they will be contacting the club by Email.

6. Jon, KC9AEJ will try to have some ID's printed and ready to be signed

by the June meeting.

7. Mark, N9MEA and Matt, N9NMH gave a status report for the trailer the club is converting. We need help to repair a hole in the side. There is also a need for lights. Rich, N9MO will see about a price for tires. Anyone who can paint the trailer, or knows of someone who will donate to this project please contact the club.

New Business:

1. The July meeting will not be held due to the club's picnic. The picnic will be held at Rib Mountain State Park on July 9th. The time will be announced later. If you plan to attend you will need to pay for a State Park Pass.

2. The WVRA Board meeting will held on May 21, 2002 at Sam's Pizza in Schofield at 6:00 P.M. Anyone is welcome to attend.

3. The new repeater codes will go into effect on June 4th. All paid members will be given notice prior to June 1st by Email.

4. Rich, KC9NW, the Marathon County Emergency Coordinator for ARES gave a review of the Weather Net that was called on April 18th, 2002. Rich mentioned some statistics about the event, a tornado, wind sheer, large hail and heavy rain. The net began on the 146.820 repeater but was moved to the 164.640 repeater because of a loose ground strap making it hard for NOAA Weather in Green Bay to copy the net. Then the link repeater in Wabeno went off the air. The net was moved back to the 146.820 repeater after the 146.640 repeater had a power problem and shut down. Rich mentioned that there where 3 net control operators. He presented Certificates of Appreciation to KB9ZHI, N9LIA, K9QM, W9RK, KC9ANA, KC9BFW, N9LIA, N9MO, K9DB, W9GLG, N9NMH, W9CPY, KC9AEJ, KB9PVI, N9NRA, KB9VBR, N9MEA and KB9STB for participating in the net. Mike KB9VBR reported on the Weather Net called on May 5th at 3:15 P.M. There where 9 operators who checked into the net. The courtesy tone will change on the 146.640 repeater when the weather changes. Inclement weather will change to the CW I (dit dit), to a W (dit da da) if a watch has been issued and we should be prepared for changing weather and S (dit dit dit) for a storm warning. Warning will mean a net is in progress or about to start. Rich, KC9NW mentioned the 146.820 repeater will be #1 and that the 146.640 will be backup.

5. Myron, KB9STB will be accepting names for First Aid Training with Re Fib. The classes will be held in June. This will be a two-week night class and RSVP is a must. More information will be coming one or two weeks ahead by Email and will be announced on the nets.

6. The club has received 5 palm top computers from Steve, KC9ANA for APRS use. If you are interested they will be distributed by a lottery at a future meeting. You will pay \$50, cash or check at the meeting to enter the drawing. The 5 will go to the winners of the drawing. There will be more of these computers coming at a later time.

7. Rich, N9MO mentioned that the Marshfield club is planning to hold a fox-hunt. This will be for two person teams and simple equipment (no Doppler). No date has been set yet. Rich will keep the club informed.

8. Scott, KC9BMD raised question as to why there are no testing sessions in Wausau. Jerry, W9GLG said that some of the club members have filed for their VE Accreditation and that a VE team is trying

(Continued on page 8)

Continued from page 4

MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY June 2002					
NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM
BWN	1213	1403	2250	30	W9RCW
BEN	466	40	785	30	KE9VU
WSBN	467	61	669	29	K9FHI
WNN	99	6	217	20	KB9ROB
WSSN	112	7	242	23	N9BDL
WIN/E	159	49	281	29	WB9ICH
WIN/L	178	49	332	30	W9UW
TOTALS	2694	1615	4776	191	

P S H R SUMMARY April 2002									
CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	T
K9JPS	45	24	12	375	0	10	0	0	466
N9VE	44	6	6	468	0	30	30	0	284
W9RCW	31	0	0	216	0	30	0	0	277
W9YCV	60	24	24	6	2	20	0	0	166
K9FHI	60	24	24	1	0	10	10	30	159
WD9FLJ	48	3	24	2	3	20	10	30	140
N9BDL	60	24	24	1	0	30	0	0	139
KB9KEG	60	9	0	35	3	20	10	0	137
W9CBE	60	24	24	8	0	20	0	0	128
AG9G	60	24	18	0	0	10	10	0	122
K9LGU	60	9	24	1	7	20	0	0	121
N9TVT	60	24	24	1	0	10	0	0	119
N6NKO	15	6	3	0	0	30	10	30	94
N6NKO (Mar)	15	3	0	2	1	30	0	30	81
W9RSX	44	18	0	0	0	10	0	0	72
KA9FVX	24	0	0	24	1	10	0	0	58

P S H R SUMMARY May 2002							
CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
KB9KEG	40	40	20	35	0	10	145
N9VE	38	40	30	20	15	0	143
K9LGU	40	40	20	15	5	0	120
K9FHI	40	40	30	10	0	0	120
AG9G	40	40	30	5	0	0	115
W9RCW	40	40	30	0	0	0	110
W9CBE	40	40	20	0	0	0	100
W9YCV	40	40	10	0	0	0	90
K9JPS	36	40	10	0	0	0	86
WD9FLJ	40	11	20	0	5	10	86
N6NKO	19	4	30	0	10	20	83
N9TVT	40	0	10	0	0	0	50
W9RSX	27	3	10	0	0	0	40

P S H R SUMMARY June 2002							
CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
AG9G	40	40	30	15	0	0	125
W9YCV	40	40	20	5	0	20	125
K9FHI	40	40	30	5	0	0	115
K9LGU	40	40	20	10	0	0	110
KB9KEG	40	40	20	0	0	10	110
W9RCW	40	40	30	0	0	0	110
W9CBE	40	40	20	0	0	0	100
N9TVT	40	40	10	0	0	0	90
K9JPS	38	40	10	0	0	0	88

STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY April 2002					
STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
K9JPS	0	409	33	388	830 -BPL
W9RCW	0	220	10	216	446 - BPL*
K9GU	0	188	29	184	401 - BPL*
N9VE	0	171	35	168	374 - BPL*
W9CBE	0	88	76	8	172
K9LGU	7	90	64	1	162
N9BDL	0	18	60	1	79
K9FHI	0	25	34	1	60
AG9G	0	9	50	0	59
KE9VU	0	18	33	1	52
W9UW	0	36	6	5	47
W9YCV	2	12	24	6	44
KG9B	0	7	35	0	42
KB9ROB	0	34	3	4	41
N9KHD	0	18	21	0	39
W9BHL	0	3	33	0	36
W9IHW	0	0	30	0	30
AA9BB	0	0	27	0	27
KA9FVX	0	0	24	0	24
WB9ICH	0	18	2	0	20
N9JIY	0	1	10	1	12
W9RSX	0	0	8	0	8
N6NKO March	1	2	2	2	7
W9PVD	0	4	2	1	7
WD9FLJ	3	2	0	2	7
K9UTQ	0	0	4	0	4
N6NKO	1	0	1	0	2

Check us out on the web at
Http://www.bs

ss.org

STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY					
May 2002					
STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
K9JPS	1	424	35	408	869 - BPL
N9VE	0	247	40	239	526 - BPL
W9RCW	0	250	12	236	498 - BPL*
K9GU	0	175	27	175	377 - BPL
W9CBE	0	91	95	3	189
K9LGU	0	68	29	1	98
AG9G	0	12	60	0	72
KG9B	0	12	45	0	57
K9FHI	0	21	32	0	53
KE9VU	0	15	36	0	51
W9YCV	0	16	27	7	50
W9UW	0	33	9	1	43
W9BHL	0	3	34	0	37
AA9BB	1	2	29	0	32
KB9ROB	0	28	2	2	32
W9IHW	0	0	332	0	32
WB9ICH	0	20	2	0	22
WD9FLJ	2	4	3	2	11
W9PVD	0	2	3	0	5
N6NKO	0	0	4	0	4
K9UTQ	0	0	4	0	4
W9RSX	0	0	3	0	3

STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY					
June 2002					
STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
K9JPS	0	482	32	371	888 - BPL
W9RCW	0	219	12	192	413 - BPL*
N9VE	1	184	43	169	397 - BPL*
K9GU	0	162	30	160	352 - BPL*
N9TVT	0	85	132	0	217
K9LGU	10	64	58	2	134
W9IHW	0	35	33	35	103
W9CBE	0	36	36	9	81
AG9G	0	60	60	0	66
KE9VU	0	18	32	0	50
K9FHI	0	17	30	0	47
W9UW	0	32	15	0	47
W9YCV	0	13	24	3	40
KG9B	0	7	29	0	36
W9BHL	0	1	28	1	30
WA9ZTY	0	0	26	0	26
AA9BB	0	0	26	0	26
KB9ROB	0	15	4	1	20
WB9ICH	0	16	2	0	18
W9PVD	0	1	2	0	3

<div>(Continued from page 6)</div> <div>to be formed in Wausau.</div> <div>Meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.</div> <div>Motion to adjourn: KB9STB Second: N9NMH</div> <div>The next meeting will be Tuesday June 4th, 2002, at 7:00 P.M. at the Marsh-field Clinic - Wausau Center Cafeteria. (Formerly known as the Wausau Medical Center). Park and enter from the main</div>	<div>parking lot at the main entrance on the East side of the building. Call in on 2-meter club repeater if you need directions: frequency is 146.640 (pl 114.8).</div> <div>June Program: Field Day by Mike, KB9VBR</div> <div>Respectfully submitted, Jerry Graebel - W9GLG (w9glg@arrl.net)</div> <div>WVRA Secretary</div>
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<div>Wisconsin Valley Radio Association</div> <div>Meeting Minutes of June 4, 2002, at Marshfield Clinic - Wausau Center.</div> <div>President Mark Rasmussen called meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.</div> <div>Program: This month the club had two presentations. The first was by Mike, KB9VBR on Field Day 2002. He opened by reading a letter from Dan, N1ND. Field Day 2002 for the W.V.R.A. will include operations on HF-voice, HF-digital, HF-cw, 6 meter SSB, UHF/VHF, APRS as a demo station as well as some SSTV. New this year will be the GOTA, get on the air, station. This will be for generally inactive operators and the general public to experience Amateur Radio first hand. The W.V.R.A. will operate under the club's call, W9SM, and will again be in the 5A class.</div> <div>The second Program was by Lee, KB9QYH about Fox Hunting. The Marshfield club, M.A.A.R.S. will hold a Fox Hunt on July 27, 2002 in Marshfield. Registration will be in the parking lot across from City Hall, East side of South Central Ave. between 6th and 7th street in Marshfield at Noon. Lee brought the Fox along and gave a demonstration of how it works. It will transmit on 146.565 for about 20 seconds each minute. Lee also brought an antenna made of PVC and a Ruler. Lee and Mike, KB9DED both showed different ways to attenuate the strong sign received as you get close to the Fox. For more information on the event contact Lee at mr.olson@charter.net, or call him at (715) 389-8888.</div>	
<div>Present: N9MEA, KB9PVI, KC9AEJ, WD9CPY, W9GLG, K9YF, N9LIA, N9SDL, KC9ANA, KB9QYH, N9PHC, KB9ZUF, K9QM, KB9JMB, N9ZMC, WBOBNR, KB9DED, N9MO, N9NRA, KB9YPS, KC9ASL, KB9STB, KC9BFW, KB9VBR, KC9AZL.</div>	
<div>Treasurer's Report:</div> <div>Motion to accept: KB9VBR Second: KB9STB</div> <div>Secretary's Report: Minutes of the May 7, 2002 meeting were accepted as published in Badger State Smoke Signals and/or posted on the WVRA Web Site. (home.dwave.net/~wvra)</div> <div>Motion to accept by KB9STB Second: N9NRA</div> <div>Old Business:</div> <div>1. Field Day: Myron, KB9STB told the members that the letters to Public Officials and the Media have been sent and he hopes to hear from them soon. Myron, KB9STB and Jerry, W9GLG have been getting donations for food, soda and other items we will need. The loading of the equipment will be at Matt's, N9NMH house, 1302 S. 5th Ave. at 6:30 P.M. on Friday June 21st. Set-up will begin at 7:00 A.M. Saturday. Talk in will be on the 146.640 pl 114.8</div> <div>2. Mark, N9MEA informed the members that the power supply for the repeaters went out again due to a power outage in Rib Mountain. Mike, KB9VBR may have found a way to remedy the problem without the need to purchase a new power supply.</div> <div>3. Scott, KB9PVI and Jon, KC9AEJ printed, laminated and distributed I.D. badges to some of the paid club members. There is a form that will need to be filled out and returned to Scott or Jon to request an I.D. They will be distributed at the May, August and February monthly meetings.</div> <div>4. Jon, KC9AEJ is in need of more Net Control Operators for the Thursday Night Discussion Net. He would like to set a rotation like the Wednesday Net.</div> <div>5. Rich, N9MO now has all the information he needs to try to get tires and rims for the club's trailer. There is still a need for donations of lights, painting and patching the trailer.</div> <div>6. Picnic: There will be no meeting in July. Instead the Club will hold a picnic at Rib Mountain State Park at 6:00 P.M. on July 9th. You will need a State Park Permit or you can ride with someone who does. You will need to bring your own food and beverage and a dish to pass if you want.</div> <div>7. CPR training will temporarily be held on June 30th at the Rothschild or Weston Fire Dept. Myron, KB9STB will be the instructor. He reminded the members that this is primarily an ARES event but will try to get others in if there is room. You must absolutely RSVP or you will be turned away. There will be an E-mail to follow with more information.</div> <div>8. Scott, KB9PVI can always use help for ideas for the club web page. Pictures, articles or other material is welcome.</div> <div>9. The Program for August may be a video tour of the Fox 55 TV transmitter. Anyone who has an idea for a program you would like please contact Mike, KB9VBR.</div> <div>10. The computers for APRS that Steve, KC9ANA has arranged to be donated to the club are still being programmed. They should be ready for the lottery drawing at the August meeting. The cost will be \$50 cash or good check to enter the lottery. There will be more coming in the future, as they are available.</div> <div>11. Mark, N9MEA mentioned that the Board Meeting time has changed from 7:00P.M. to 6:00 P.M. to accommodate a new board member. They will be held at the same location, Sam's Pizza in Schofield.</div> <div>12. Mike, KB9VBR has Repeater Guides for the club repeaters. If you need one please contact Mike, KB9VBR.</div> <div>New Business:</div> <div>1. There will be a Fox Hunt in Marshfield on July 27th as mentioned earlier.</div> <div>2. Mike, KB9VBR has arranged for a Special Event on August 10th and 11th using the club call of W9SM for the Eland Railroad Days from the historic Eland Railroad Depot. The Event has been registered with QST. He is having special QSL cards printed for the event. At this time he hopes to have a radio on HF voice on 28.460, 21.360, 14.260, 7.260, and another to operate an old time "clapper" for the CW sound. If you can help with this project or have any questions E-mail Mike, KB9VBR at mikem@martechsys.com.</div> <div>3. Steve, KC9ANA brought up that June 15th is Kid's Day and urged members to participate. Steve also asked if anyone knows of an organization that helps under privileged children to get involved in Amateur Radio, maybe by getting equipment for the children?</div>	

(Continued from page 8)

- 4. Rich, N9MO received discount coupons from Six Flags. If interested contact Rich, N9MO.
- 5. Lee, KB9QYH asked if there was anyone looking to take an upgrade test. The Marshfield VE team would like to know if they should hold an exam session in August. This will be announced on the nets.
- 6. There will be an auction held after a short meeting in October. Please bring your items for sale and plenty of cash to buy.
- 7. Mike, KB9VBR reminded the members that the South Milwaukee Ham Fest would be held on July 6th. Andy, N9NRA will get information as to a bus or coach for the Grays Lake, IL ham Fest. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M. Mo-

tion to adjourn: KB9STB Second: N9NRA

The W.V.R.A. Club Picnic will be held July 9, 2002 at Rib Mountain State Park at 6:00 P.M.

The next meeting will be Tuesday August 6, 2002, at 7:00 P.M. at the Marshfield Clinic - Wausau Center Cafeteria. (Formerly known as the Wausau Medical Center). Park and enter from the main parking lot at the main entrance on the East side of the building. Call in on 2-meter club repeater if you need directions: frequency is 146.640 (pl 114.8).

Respectfully submitted,
Jerry Graebel - W9GLG
(w9glg@arrl.net)
WVRA Secretary

2002 Wisconsin QSO Party

(Continued from page 1)

Tessmer, K9NW, from Ohio. Mike traveled to N8BJQ's superstation in Ohio to operate. Mike operated LOW power making 163 CW QSOs and 144 phone QSOs with 57 Wisconsin counties, for a total record breaking score of 40,185 points for Out of State stations. Congratulations Mike.

This year we had 23 WI clubs enter. Our winning Wisconsin club this year is the Bay Area Wireless Association. They had 9 total entries for a combined total club score of 627,279 points, just a scant bit under the standing record set last year. Congratulations to Bay Area Wireless Association members for their win. This is their first win in WIQP Wisconsin club competition.

Our Single Op Mobile winner is Jeff Bechner, W9MSE, who took to the highways and pounded out 584 LOW power CW QSOs from 16 counties. He scored 107,864 points but not a new record. He still holds the SOM record he set last year. Congratulations Jeff.

Our Single Op Novice winner is Alex Jasper, KB9TTO, who operated QRP mobile from 16 counties, making 51 phone QSOs, for a score of 2448 points. Congratulations Alex.

Our Single Op Technician winner is Steve Lamers, N9SGG, who operated LOW power mobile from 11 counties, making 129 phone QSOs, for a score of 10,031 points. He still holds the SOT record that he set last year. Congratulations Steve.

Our Multi Op Fixed winner is Paul DeWitte, K9OT, who set a new record for this category. Their 3 operators made 232 CW QSOs and 208 phone QSOs for a new record total of 91,728 points, from Lafayette County, compared to the old standing record of 78,300 set in 1999. Congratulations.

Our Multi Op Mobile winner is Harold Burt, W9HB, who drove from Illinois to Wisconsin to set a new record for this category. Their 3 operators made 590 CW QSOs and 24 phone QSOs from 19 WI counties, for a new record of 134,114 points, compared to the old standing record of 112,875 set in 2001. Congratulations.

Our Multi Multi Fixed winner Paul Bittner, W0AIH, also set a new record in this category. Their 8 operators made 401 CW QSOs and 1103 phone QSOs from Eau Claire County. The total score was 348,615 points, which betters the old standing record of 335,556, set last year. Congratulations.

Our Multi Multi Mobile winner was N9KS, who made 530 CW QSOs and 215 phone QSOs, in 23 counties, for a total

score of 152,525 points. Not a new record though. Congratulations.

I know I have said this before but it bears repeating. The mobile stations really help make WIQP as popular as it is. I think that our mobiles putting 62 counties on the air exemplifies that. I think there are lots of stations outside of Wisconsin looking for counties, besides the WI stations, hoping to work the mobiles over and over. I think having a good mobile turnout helps a lot each year. Please be sure to thank all the mobile operators for their efforts. I do. In fact, I might even try a mobile operation next year, so I can experience what it is like. Perhaps you might want to also? And don't forget to thank the fixed stations too.

And lastly I say again and again - thanks to all the many, many stations, both mobile and fixed, in Wisconsin and out of Wisconsin, who through their efforts, make WIQP what it is each year. Without all the signals on the air for the seven continuous hours of WIQP, WIQP would not be what it is - the BEST QSO PARTY in the USA. Please thank all the participants whenever you get a chance. Without all of their efforts, there would be no Wisconsin QSO Party.

See you next March 9, 2003 for WIQP, the good Lord willing.

Lynn Tamblyn, K9KR
Chairman WIQP for WARAC
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An "Old" Friend of Mine Died This Morning

1 August 2002 A.D.

An "old" friend of mine died this morning. I mean that in the most literal and endearing ways possible. Bob Baird W9NN became a Silent Key at age 96. It took a disease the magnitude of leukemia to do it. When a recent diagnosis confirmed his condition, he declined chemotherapy and reportedly said, "Well, what the hell, I had a good run for it."

He died at his home, peacefully in his sleep, with friends at his side.

Most of us in this area got to know Bob when he moved to Plover after his retirement. He was a broadcast engineer for WGN in Chicago for 44 years. He was in his 70's then, "old" by actuarial standards. Those of us fortunate enough to have had the opportunity to work with him knew differently. Bob was full of fire. He was instrumental in starting a local chapter of the Quarter Century Wireless Association. He had helped found the national QCWA a few decades earlier. He was a supporter and avid volunteer every year at the State Summer Games of the Wisconsin Special Olympics held in Stevens Point. He was an active member of the Central Wisconsin Radio Amateurs at UWSP, where he did not hesitate to speak his mind or call a spade a spade. He was a continuous member of the Rib Mountain Repeater Association. In these clubs he often urged the "dead wood... to get out of the way and make room for some younger blood and ideas."

He always had time for the young members of the group. On more than one occasion I recall seeing kids and adults alike held spellbound by Bob's storytelling of the early days of Amateur Radio and the high jinks he pulled to obtain equipment. How many of these stories were true? Embellished? We'll never know. But... that was Bob.

Bob's tenacity at the business table will be remembered. But it was his social antics that will immortalize him in my memory.

I remember an "after meeting" gathering at a local watering hole that Bob was late in getting to. When he walked in, the group of about 20 Amateurs stood and applauded his arrival to razz him. He calmly walked to the head end of the table, raised his hand to quiet the crowd and announced, "I suppose you're wondering why I called you all here. Well, you're all FIRED!"

Bob was rarely seen without his trademark pocketful of the cigars. When asked what kind they were, he'd often reply, "Grounders. I pick them up off the ground after following the dog!"

Around age 80 he needed a new car, so he bought a Ford Probe. I remember him complaining that it was "...a little light on the 'zip' for me."

For most of those retirement years he wintered in Florida. He was fond of returning in spring sporting a new “Miami Vice” baseball cap and passing around pictures of his girlfriend, a woman in her 50's. (It never seemed to be the same woman twice.) The indefatigable Bob attended one year's CWRA banquet escorted by a date 40 years his junior.

Thank you Bob for showing me a side of Amateur Radio few more will ever know. Thank you Bob for showing me I don't have to be afraid of living to my 90's. Thank you Bob for having "What the hell, ...a good run for it".

Paul Nelles K9DB
Mosinee WI

BSSS COMMENTS

We apologize for the lateness in getting this issue out.

To quote Bobbie Burns “The best laid plans of mice and men gang aft aglee.”

We have already started work on the next issue which we hope to have out about 4 weeks after this issue goes in the mail, and plan to have a total of six issues for this year.

Your may notice that the last issue and this issue both are shown as Vol. 33 No. 3. The May issue was numbered

wrong, so this issue is shown as No. 3*.

I want to thank the people who have volunteered to help with BSSS. With special thanks to Dave Knaus, N9QA for his work on the BSSS WEB site, and to Wayne Stewart KB9JJD with his help with rewriting in the May issue.

Many others have helped with editorial material and help with assembly and mailing.

We are always looking for articles to use in BSSS. We want articles, including pictures of activities relating to or of interest to Wisconsin Amateurs.

Information about your Field Day

activities (with pictures) would be welcome for the next issue.

If your club is putting together an activity, we would be happy to be part of your promotion of your event.

Please check the listing of swapfests, VE examinations, and club meetings. If yours is not shown or needs updating, please get the information to us at the addresses on page 2.

You can send the information to me at k9en@arrl.net and a copy to Dave Knaus, N9QA at n9qa@arrl.net for the BSSS Web edition.

73 ken k9en

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Allen Schnepf, N0GMJ, Treasurer
Ogema, WI 54459

Andy Nemec, KB9ALN, Editor—453 Cottage Grove Avenue—Green Bay, WI 54304—e-mail: kb9aln@gbonline.com

WAPR News - July, 2002

by Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

Greetings to all of our members and readers, and we hope you are enjoying a good summer. It has been a wet one so far, the western and some northern parts of the state experienced flooding. And the rest of us can't seem to keep our lawns mowed. Let's hope you are dry.

There is news to report here and there throughout the state. On the Lakeshore, Red, N9GHE from Manitowoc reports he is ready to sell his home and move north to Three Lakes and enjoy his retirement. This means that the N9GHE BBS and Nodestack is up for sale. Unless a buyer and operator can be found, this stack may very well go off the air, leaving a gap in the network between Algoma and Sheboygan. This would effectively isolate the central Wisconsin and Fox River Valley networks from the Lakeshore.

If you would like to contact Red concerning this stack and have E-Mail, try sending a message to:

pajular@lakefield.net

I am sure Red would be happy to hear from you.

There's another BBS that has temporarily gone away. The Waupaca BBS, KB9QWC is now off the air in anticipation of a move to Oshkosh. In addition to the BBS, Oshkosh would get a full node stack to serve the Winnebago County area, operated by Greg KB9SZP. As of right now, details are still being nailed down. As soon as I know more, we'll report it here.

In the last issue, I mentioned that the summer WAPR meeting is in the planning stages. Apparently, we suffered a minor setback in our plans and we'll have to find another place to hold the meeting.

You recall from the last news report, this is an important meeting that will focus on electing new officers. Our current chairman, Joel Papke N9BQM, has announced that he will not seek another term. Ditto for WAPR treasurer Al Schnepf, N0GMJ. I also mentioned that it might not be a bad idea to get different person involved in the secretary's position, which I currently hold. Perhaps someone else can bring a new perspective and new features to this space we have in the BSSS?

When we do have the meeting worked out, do look for the announcement on your local BBS, or at the WAPR web site. We'll get the word out in whatever way we can.

Last time I also mentioned that our WAPR web site has a new address - (the old one may work for a while yet). The new URL is:

<http://members.gbonline.com/~kb9aln/wapr>

One recent addition to the web site is the WAPR bandplan. It was revised from a very old copy, so there may be additions and corrections needed. If you do come across some errors please let me know through the mail ink on the site.

And that's all for this time out, we'll see you next in September. Until then, 73 from Andy.

Net/Rom Node Information for the Sysop Part Thirteen

by Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

This is part 13 of a series designed to help node Sysops learn more about the popular TheNet X-1J series of nodes. This month, we'll skip over the user QUIT command, and move on to the RESET, ROUTES, and STATS commands.

RESET

This does exactly what you may think - it resets the TNC. There are two ways that the TNC can be reset - a "Cold Start" and a "Warm Start".

A Cold Start will erase the current node list and routing information. Dynamically obtained ARP information will also be lost. In effect, it is very much like turning the power to the TNC off and then back on. Therefore, any setting that was modified from the original ROM setting (such as TXDelay or Persist) will be lost.

A Warm Start is like typing the command "RESTART" on a conventional TNC. Any parameters that are changed from the original ROM parameters will still be there. It's suggested that you try a warm start first when trying to

reset the TNC.

The RESET command for a warm start is simply:

RESET

For a cold start reset, add a space and any arbitrary text, such as:

RESET NODE

ROUTES

Users have access to this command in it's most basic form - it will show a table of "locked-in" node routes when entered. When the Sysop uses this command (connected to the node in Sysop mode, of course), it can be used to add, delete, or change the node's routing table.

A node sysop can use the command to "lock-in" a route to a neighbor node, or unlock it. This is used most frequently when the neighbor node is on the same stack, or reliably reached via radio. A sysop can also specify a particular route quality, allowing the node to pick the most reliable path. Routing control is an art, and locking in nodes should be done carefully and sparingly.

Here are the various forms of the ROUTE command:

ROUTE By itself will show you a table of locked-in routes that the node knows about. It will look something like this:

```
WAPR1:WX9APR-1}Routes:
1 #WAPR9:WX9APR-4 255 28
1 #WAPR2:WX9APR-7 255 28
> 0 WBBS:WX9APR 225 1 !
0 WAPRDX:WX9APR-2 130 1
```

This is pretty familiar to most experienced node users. The chevron > mark indicates that the route is in use.

ROUTE [port-number] [Node-callsign/SSID] [digi-list] [+or-] [quality] Will add a locked-in route to the specified node call-sign on the specified port. Digipeaters can also be used to access a remote node. For example:

ROUTE 1 WX9APR-2 + 254 will lock a route in to WX9APR-2 on port 1 (the RS-232 port) with a route quality of 254. Conversely, :

ROUTE 1 WX9APR-2 - 254 will "unlock" a route to this node and will rely on node broadcasts to obtain a quality number and other routing information.

STATS

This command can retrieve valuable information about the health of the node and it's performance. There are no parameters to specify when issuing this command. It's output consists of 6 sets of numbers from the node's 4 levels of operation. Those marked L1 are the re-

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Net/Rom Node Information
Continued

ceiver and transmitter (the physical layer), L2 (the protocol layer) that shows AX.25 statistics, L3 and L4, the layers responsible for network transport. Here's a typical output from the STATS command:

#WAPR2:WX9APR-4} Statistics
L1 Tx % : 1 0 1 2 0 0
L1 DCD% : 3 0 1 4 0 0
L1 RxOvr: 0 0 0 0
L1 TxUnd: 0 0 0 0
L2 RxCRC: 5 0 5 0
L2 heard: 69 67 57 103
L2 recvd: 22 0 0 0
L2 sent : 67 45 61 58
L2 RxRNR: 0 0 0 0
L2 RxREJ: 0 0 0 0
L2 TxRNR: 0 0 0 0
L2 TxREJ: 0 0 0 0
L2 fails: 0 0 0 0
L3 g'wyd: 0 0
L4 recvd: 11 0
L4 sent : 8 0
Buffers : 613 634 614 594 632 633
CPU loop: 1218 1259 1253 1244 1259 1259
Timers : 13159 44169
L1 flush: 0 44

Let's look at the L1 statistics first. The first two statistics show activity over the past hour, divided into six 10 minute groups. Here's the definitions of the abbreviations you see above.

L1 Tx % - the percentage of time the transmitter was active
L1 DCD% - the percentage of time the DCD was active
L1 RxOvr - the number of receiver overruns
L1 TxUnd - the number of transmitter underruns

L2 statistics are divided into two groups of two numbers. The first pair

shows activity over the past hour, with the first number indicating port 0, the second indicating port 1. Ditto for the second group, except that these numbers apply to the second hour. Here's what the abbreviations mean:

L2 RxCRC - The Frame Checksum Error count
L2 heard - Total number of packets received
L2 recvd - The total count of heard packets that were sent to the node
L2 sent - Total number of sent packets
L2 RxRNR - "Receiver Not Ready" Packets received count
L2 RxREJ - Number of "Reject" packets received by the node
L2 TxRNR - Count of "Receiver Not Ready" packets sent by the node
L2 TxREJ - number of "Reject" packets sent by the node
L2 fails - Timed-out AX.25 links count

L3 and L4 statistics are displayed in two number groups, one for this hour, the other for the past hour. There are two:

L3 g'wyd - shows the number of packets that were handled as network node connections and transported to other nodes (gatewayed) L4 recvd - Number of packets that were received for node connections that originate of terminate at this node L4 sent - Number of packets that were sent for node connections that either originate or terminate at this node

The two statistics that follow the L4 stats show the TNC's load. These are displayed the same way that the L1 stats are shown, 6 representing 10 minute intervals. Here's their definitions:

Buffers - Shows the number of free buffers, indicating buffer overruns CPU loop - Displays the time it took for the CPU to make it through a "loop" of the X-1J program.

Buffers normally run somewhere around 600. The fewer the available buffers, the better chance that data will get "lost" by the node.

The Great Circus Train 2002

The 2002 run of The Great Circus Train was July 6-8 and was a big success. The team of six operators made 174 contacts on the trip from Baraboo to Milwaukee, mostly on 20 meters and 2 meters. If you worked W9D, QSL with SASE to Dave Knaus, N9QA, 252 Port Washington Rd., Grafton, WI 53024 for a commemorative QSL. QSLs will go out in a few weeks. You can check the log and QSL status at <http://www.warac.org/train/02train.htm> This special event station was made possible through the generosity of Strong Funds, sponsor of the Great Circus Train.

Ed note: I have the logs and records from Jim, K9ZZ for the 2001 Great Circus Train. I hope to find time to go over them in the next few weeks, and will answer any requests that I can. I already have received several inquiries about their QSLs. If you have not already contacted me, please do so and I will see what I can do. — Ken k9en

Great Circus Parade Showgrounds

The West Allis Radio Amateur Club operated special event station **W9C** from the Great Circus Parade Showgrounds, Milwaukee, WI, from **July 10-13**. For certificate send QSL to W9C, S46 W22328 Tansdale Rd., Waukesha, WI 53189.

2002 Wisconsin QSO Party results are now available

<http://www.warac.org/wqp/2002/02result.htm>

Murphy's Technology Laws

You can never tell which way the train went by looking at the track.

Logic is a systematic method of coming to the wrong conclusion with confidence.

Whenever a system becomes completely defined, some damn fool discovers something which either abolishes the system or expands it beyond recognition.

Technology is dominated by those who manage what they do not understand. If builders built buildings the way programmers wrote programs, then the first woodpecker that came along would destroy civilization.

The opulence of the front office decor varies inversely with the fundamental solvency of the firm.

The attention span of a computer is only as long as it electrical cord.



Yellow Thunder
Amateur Radio Club



WB9FDZ (Original Club Call)
K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)

The meeting of May 1, 2002 was called to order at 7:12 p.m. by Steve Schulze, N9UDO.

Minutes of the April 2, 2002 meeting were approved. The treasurer's report was approved. (that would be the report by club Treasurer Bill Klinkner N9KXX rather than the report by the club president who gave some numbers until Bill arrived).

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

OLD BUSINESS: Three types of QSL cards received from Merle Homles, KW9K were passed around. Steve Schulze gave an update on the 6th Annual Circus City Brat & Swapfest. Will be held Saturday August 10th. Set up 5 p.m. Friday August 9th. VE testing will be offered.

NEW BUSINESS: Field day June 22-23, 2002 at Owen Park in Columbia County. CWRA lunch at 12:30 meeting at 1 May 11th at leystra's Restaurant in Sauk City. Guest Chuck Humboldt was introduced/welcome to the club. Good luck on your exam Saturday! Tom Harrison, N9PQJ gave a report on Sunday's Zilch brunch at the Farm Kitchen. Not sure when the next brunch will be. Joe Mayenschein,

WB9SBD showed a couple of brief videos on balloons and on ECO Challenge. He is looking for volunteers to help with communications on the "Driftless Zone Adventure Race" to be held in Sauk County Saturday August 24th.

Meeting Adjourned at 8 p.m. followed by the ARES/RACES meeting.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday June 6, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. at the EOC located in the basement of the Sauk County Courthouse.

Respectfully Submitted,
Raymond J Matlosz, N9MLZ
Secretary

The following members and guests were present:

James Brann	KB9NXG	Bluffview
Maurey Gurgel	WA9TBU	Reedsburg
Peter Sweeney	WD9JIB	Reedsburg
Duane Grotphorst	N9DG	North Freedom
Dave Spearing	KB9CSW	Portage
Joe Mayenschein	WB9SBD	LaValle
Linda Mayenschein	KA9CHM	LaValle
Chuck Humboldt		Lodi
Lynn Loomis	KB9YOD	Reedsburg
Robert Loomis	KB9VSQ	Reedsburg
Steve Schulze	N9UDO	Baraboo
Raymond Matlosz	N9MLZ	Reedsburg
Thomas Harrison	N9PQJ	Reedsburg
Bill Klinkner	N9KXX	Sauk City

The meeting of June 6, 2002 was called to order at 7:12 p.m. by Steve Schulze, N9UDO.

Minutes of the May 1, 2002 meeting were approved. Treasurer's report was approved. Have money. Could use some more for anticipated purchases.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chuck Humbolt and his son Jason Humboldt passed their technician class examination and both became club members. CONGRATULATIONS CHUCK & JASON!

OLD BUSINESS: Joe Mayenschein, WB9SBD updated the club on the Driftless Zone Adventure Race to be held in Sauk County Saturday August 24, 2002. He is looking for volunteers to help with the communications. Steven Schulze and Bill Klinker updated the club on field day preparations. Set up Saturday morning June 22nd at 9 a.m. in Owen Park. Bill Klinkner gave a report on the CWRA lunch that was held May 1 at Leystra's Restaurant. CWRA is thinking about going to a PL to deal with the issue of interference from other 88 re-

peaters.

NEW BUSINESS: Steve mentined the upcoming ARRL contest for six meters and up.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:07 p.m. followed by the ARES/RACES meeting.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY JULY 2, 2002, 7 p.m. at the EOC located in the basement of the Sauk County Courthouse.

Respectfully Submitted,
Raymond J Matlosz, N9MLZ
secretary

The following members were present:

Steve Schulze	N9UDO	Baraboo
Chuck Humboldt	KC9BWS	Lodi
Jason Humboldt	KC9BWT	Lodi
Joe Mayenschein	WB9SBD	LaValle
Raymond Matlosz	N9MLZ	Reedsburg
Thomas Harrison	N9PQJ	Reedsburg
Peter Sweeney	WD9JIB	Reedsburg
Lynn Loomis	KB9YOD	Reedsburg
Robert Loomis	KB9VSQ	Reedsburg
Dave Spearing	KB9CSW	Portage
Maurey Gurgel	KA9TBU	Reedsburg

Net/Rom Node Information
Continued

CPU Loop values vary depending on the clock speed of the TNC. For a 5 MHz clock and no activity, this will be about 470. With about 75% activity, this will drop to the 300's. If the loop value drops much more than that, the CPU is running as fast as it can and there is a probability of data loss. A 20 MHz Node model Paccomm TNC shows a loop value of about 1200 on a lightly loaded channel.

The Timers display shows the number of hours of operation on each port. The first set is for Port 0 (the radio port), the second is port 1.

Lastly, there is the "L1 Flush" value, also shown for both radio and serial ports. A "Flush" happens when data that is queued and ready to be sent in stead is "flushed out" and not sent.

That's all for this part. Next time, we'll continue our alphabetical exploration of the Sysop commands for these nodes. Until then,
73 from Andy.

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